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Radio Free Europe should be maintained

Dear Editor:

If Senator Fulbright has his way, Radio Free Europe will cease broadcasting this month. Funding ran out Feb. 22 following a charge by Mr. Fulbright, that RFE was being financed in part by the Central Intelligence Agency. He failed, however, to mention that constant monitoring of RFE programs revealed unbiased news reporting and straight commentary similar to that supplied by the three major networks. Our own republican representative, (Robert Steele) has demanded that Fulbright release two favorable and substantial reports on RFE to the public. Ironically the reports were ordered by his own committee on Foreign Relations, of which he is chairman.

Radio Free Europe stations broadcast to eastern European nations including those behind the iron curtain. Thus they are a potential threat to the soviet form of tyranny which has enslaved millions and prevented men and women from learning anything save "the party line." Why then does Senator Fulbright want RFE muzzled. Are we to believe the sole justification is association with the CIA?

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There are thousands of Hungarians, Luthuanians, Czechoslovakians, Rumanians, Latvians and Bulgarians located in this state. Are they going to allow Mr. Fulbright the opportunity of shutting down RFE? Will they permit his ending, perhaps for all time, the one contact that keeps hope alive in the hearts and minds of relatives and friends behind the barbed wire of the USSR? I think not. Please write or telegram representative Steele so that he will know you care. Do it for those you love, do it for RFE, but do it.

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